Numb. 38.

The EXAMINER.

From **Thursday** *April* 12, to **Thursday** *April* 19, 1711.

Semper cauſæ eventorum magis movent quam ipſa eventa.

I Am glad to obſerve, that ſeveral among the *Whigs* have begun very much to change their Language of late. The Style is now among the reaſonable part of them, when they meet a Man in Buſineſs, or a Member of Parliament; *Well, Gentlemen, if you go on as you have hitherto done, we ſhall no longer have any Pretence to Complain.* They find, it ſeems, that there have been yet no Overtures made to bring in the *Pretender*, nor any preparatory Steps towards it. They read no enſlaving Votes, nor Bills brought in to endanger the Subject. The Indulgence to ſcrupulous Conſciences, is again confirm'd from the Throne, inviolably preſerv'd, and not the leaſt Whiſper offer'd that may affect it. All Care is taken to ſupport the War: Supplies chearfully granted, and Funds readily ſubſcrib'd to, in ſpight of the little Arts made uſe of to diſcredit them. The juſt Reſentmens of ſome, which are laudable in themſelves, and which at another Juncture it might be proper to give way to, have been ſoften'd or diverted by the Calmneſs of others. So that upon the Article of preſent Management, I do not ſee how any Objection of Weight can well be rais'd.

However, our Adverſaries ſtill alledge, that this great Succeſs was wholly unexpected, and out of all probable View. That in publick Affairs, we ought leaſt of all others, to judge by Events; That the Attempt of changing a Miniſtry, during the Difficulties of a long War, was raſh and inconſiderate: That if the Qu—— were diſpoſed by Her Inclinations, or from any Perſonal diſlike, for ſuch a Change, it might have been done with more Safety, in a Time of Peace: That if it had miſcarried by any of thoſe Incidents, which in all Appearance might have intervened, the Conſequences would perhaps have ruined the whole Confederacy; and therefore, however it hath now ſucceeded, the Experiment was too dangerous to try.

But this is what we can by no means allow them. We never will admit Raſhneſs or Chance to have produc'd all this Harmony and Order. 'Tis viſible to the World, that the ſeveral Steps towards this Change were ſlowly taken, and with the utmoſt Caution. The *Movers* obſerv'd as they went on, how Matters would bear, and advanc'd no farther at firſt, than ſo as they might be able to ſtop or go back, if Circumſtances were not Mature. Things were grown to ſuch a Height, that it was no longer the Queſtion, whether a Perſon who aim'd at an Employment, were a *Whig* or a *Tory*, much leſs, whether he had Merit or proper Abilities for what he pretended to: He muſt owe his Preferment only to the Favourites; and the Crown was ſo far from *Nominating*, that they would not allow it a *Negative*. This, the Qu—— was reſolv'd no longer to endure, and began to break into their *Preſcription*, by beſtowing one or two Places of Conſequence, without conſulting Her *Ephori*; after they had fix'd them for others, and concluded as uſually, that all their Buſineſs was to ſignify their Pleaſure to Her M———y. But tho' the Perſons the Qu—— had choſen, were ſuch as no Objection could well be rais'd againſt upon the ſcore of Party; yet the *Oligarchy* took the Alarm; their Sovereign Authority was, it ſeems, called in Queſtion; they grew into Anger and Diſcontent, as if their undoubted Rights were violated. All former Obligations to their Sovereign now became cancell'd; and they put themſelves upon the Foot of People, who were hardly us'd after the moſt eminent Services.

I believe all Men, who know any thing in Politicks, will agree, that a Prince thus treated, by thoſe he has moſt confided in, and perpetually loaded with his Favours, ought to extricate himſelf as ſoon as poſſible; and is then only blameable in his choice of Time, when he defers one Minute after it is in his Power; becauſe, from the monſtrous Encroachments of exorbitant Avarice and Ambition, he cannot tell how long it may continue to be ſo. And it will be found, upon enquiring into Hiſtory, that moſt of thoſe Princes, who have been ruin'd by Favourites, have owed their Misfortune to the neglect of early Remedies; deferring to ſtruggle 'till they were quite Sunk.

The Whigs are every Day curſing the ungovernable Rage, the haughty Pride, and unſatiable Covetouſneſs of a *certain Perſon*, as the Cauſe of their Fall; and are apt to tell their Thoughts, that *one ſingle Removal* might have ſet all things right. But the Intereſts of that ſingle Perſon, were found, upon Experience, ſo complicated and woven with the reſt, by *Love*, by *Awe*, by *Marriage*, by *Alliance*, that they would rather confound Heaven and Earth, than diſſolve ſuch an Union.

I have always heard and underſtood, that a King of *England*, poſſeſs'd of his People's Hearts, at the Head of a Free Parliament, and in full Agreement with a great Majority, made the true Figure in the World that ſuch a Monarch ought to do, and purſued the real Intereſt of Himſelf and his Kingdom. Will they allow Her M———y to be in thoſe Circumſtances at preſent? And was it not plain by the Addreſſes ſent from all Parts of the Iſland, and by the viſible Diſpoſition of the People, that ſuch a Parliament would undoubtedly be choſen? And ſo it prov'd, without the Court's uſing any Arts to influence Elections.

What People then, are theſe in a corner, to whom the Conſtitution muſt truckle? If the whole Nations Credit cannot ſupply Funds for the War, without humble Application from the entire Legiſlature to a few *Retailers* of Mony, 'tis high time we ſhould ſue for a Peace. What new Maxims are theſe, which neither We nor our Forefathers ever heard of before, and which no wiſe Inſtitution would ever allow? Muſt our Laws from henceforward paſs the *Bank* and *Eaſt-India* Company, or have their *Royal Aſſent* before they are in force?

To hear ſome of theſe worthy Reaſoners talking of *Credit*, that ſhe is ſo nice, ſo ſqueamiſh, ſo capricious; you would think they were deſcribing a Lady troubl'd with Vapors or the Cholick, to be only removed by a *Courſe of Steel*, and *ſwallowing a Bullet*. By the narrowneſs of their Thoughts, one would imagine they conceiv'd the World to be no wider than *Exchange Alley*. 'Tis probable they may have ſuch a ſickly Dame among them, and 'tis well if ſhe has no worſe Diſeaſes, conſidering what Hands ſhe paſſes through. But the *National Credit* is of another Complexion; of ſound Health, and an even Temper, her Life and Exiſtence being a Quinteſſence drawn from the Vitals of the whole Kingdom. And we find theſe *Mony-Politicians*, after all their Noiſe, to be of the ſame Opinion, by the Court they paid Her, when ſhe lately appear'd to them in the form of a *Lottery*.

As to that mighty Error in Politicks, they charge upon the Qu——, for changing Her Miniſtry in the Heighth of a War. I ſuppoſe, it is only look'd upon as an Error under a Whigiſh Adminiſtration; otherwiſe, the late King has much to anſwer for, who did it pretty frequently. And it is well known, that the late Miniſtry of *Famous Memory*, was brought in during this preſent War, only with this Circumſtance, that two or three of the Chief, did firſt change their own Principles, and then took in ſuitable Companions.

But however, I ſee no reaſon why the *Tories* ſhou'd not value their Wiſdom by Events, as well as the *Whigs*. Nothing was ever thought a more precipitate raſh Counſel, than that of *altering the Coin* at the Juncture it was done; yet the Prudence of the Undertaking was ſufficiently juſtify'd by the Succeſs. Perhaps it will be ſaid, that the Attempt was neceſſary, becauſe the whole Species of Money, was ſo grievouſly Clip'd and Counterfeit. And, is not Her Majeſty's Authority as Sacred as Her Coin? and has not that been moſt ſcandalouſly *Clip'd* and *Mang'd*, and often *Counterfeited* too?

It is another grievous Complaint of the Whigs, that their late Friends, and the whole Party, are treated with abundance of Severity in Print, and in particular by the *Examiner*. They think it hard, that when they are wholly depriv'd of Power, hated by the People, and out of all hope of re-eſtabliſhing themſelves, their Infirmities ſhould be ſo often diſplay'd, in order to render them yet more odious to Mankind. This is what they employ their Writers to ſet forth in their Papers of the Week; and it is Humerſome enough to obſerve one Page taken up in railing at the *Examiner* for his Invectives againſt a diſcarded Miniſtry; and the other ſide fill'd with the falſeſt and vileſt Abuſes, againſt thoſe who are now in the higheſt Power and Credit with their Sovereign, and whoſe leaſt Breath would ſcatter them into Silence and Obſcurity. However, tho' I have indeed often wondred to ſee ſo much Licentiouſneſs taken and connived at, and am ſure it would not be ſuffer'd in any other Country of Chriſtendom; yet I never once invok'd the Aſſiſtance of the *Goal* or the *Pillory*, which upon the leaſt Provocation, was the uſual Style during their Tyranny. There hath not paſs'd a Week theſe twenty Years without ſome malicious Paper, ſcatter'd in every Coffee-Houſe by the Emiſſaries of that Party, whether it were *down* or *up*. I believe, they will not pretend to object the ſame thing to Us. Nor do I remember any conſtant Weekly Paper, with Reflections on the late Miniſtry or J—n—to. They have many weak, defenceleſs Parts, they have not been us'd to a regular Attack, and therefore it is that they are ſo ill able to endure one, when it comes to be their Turn. So that they complain more of a few Months Truths from us, than we did of all their Scandal and Malice, for twice as many Years.

I cannot forbear obſerving upon this Occaſion, that thoſe worthy Authors I am ſpeaking of, ſeem to me, not fairly to repreſent the Sentiments of their Party; who in diſputing with us, do generally give up ſeveral of the late M——ry, and freely own many of their Failings. They confeſs the monſtrous *Debt upon the Navy*, to have been cauſed by moſt ſcandalous Miſmanagement; they allow the Inſolence of *ſome*, and the *Avarice* of *others*, to have been inſupportable: But theſe Gentlemen are moſt liberal in their Praiſes to thoſe Perſons, and upon thoſe very Articles, where their wiſeſt Friends give up the Point. They gravely tell us, that *ſuch a one* was the moſt faithful Servant ever any Prince had; *another* the moſt dutiful, a third the moſt generous, and a fourth of the greateſt Integrity. So that I look upon theſe Champions, rather as retain'd by a *Cabal* than a *Party*, which I deſire the reaſonable Men among them would pleaſe to conſider.

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